

31st Anniversary of the enactment of the revolutionary bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT
OLAN ARMSTRONG OF THE
ARVIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant Olan Armstrong on his retirement from the City of Arvin Police Department after 43 years of service.

Born and raised in Arvin, California, Lieutenant Armstrong has dedicated his life to serving his community. While attending Arvin High School, Lieutenant Armstrong was as an active member of the Arvin Police Explorers program which prepares youth for law enforcement careers through assistance with community events. After graduation, Lieutenant Armstrong went on to lead a successful career within the Arvin Police Department while dedicating countless hours to various volunteer organizations.

During his career, Lieutenant Armstrong worked as both a volunteer ambulance driver and volunteer fireman for the City of Arvin and surrounding areas. He has also coached and umpired the Arvin Little League, served as coordinator for the Arvin Police Explorer Program, and served as board member for the Bear Mountain Recreation Department.

Lieutenant Armstrong truly dedicated his life to volunteerism and community service. He made great efforts to serve the City of Arvin throughout his lifetime and has remained an integral part of the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Lieutenant Olan Armstrong for his lifetime of service to the City of Arvin, California, and congratulating him on his recent retirement.

RECOGNIZING MOHAMMAD
SIDDIQUE SHEIKH'S SERVICE TO
OUR GREAT COMMONWEALTH OF
VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, since moving to the United States from Gujranwala, Pakistan, Mr. Sheikh has served his community diligently through successful entrepreneurship and advocacy for the Pakistani American and Muslim communities.

Mr. Sheikh's dedication and commitment to the Pakistani American community has had a great impact not only those in Virginia's First District but the Greater Washington area. Throughout the years Mr. Sheikh has worked tirelessly to support Muslim communities through the creation of the Muslim Community Center and the Islamic Circle of North America Sunday School.

Mr. Sheikh is the Founder and Chairman of the U.S.-Pakistan International Chamber of Commerce (USPICC), previously known as

the Pakistan American Business Association (PABA), a representative body of entrepreneurs of Pakistani-origin, created in 1985. USPICC has worked with various business and academic entities to provide guidance and support to entrepreneurs, professionals, and the community in general.

In conjunction to advocating for the Pakistani American and Muslim community, Mr. Sheikh has also been a great supporter of several academic boards and business institutions, including George Mason University's (GMU) education program. Through his positions on the board of visitors with George Mason University and Pakistan's National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Mr. Sheikh has been able to create opportunities and connections abroad for both the students and faculty at GMU and NUST.

Madam Speaker, I have had the privilege to know Mr. Sheikh for many years and count him as a friend. I ask you to join me in recognition of Mr. Mohammad Siddique Sheikh's leadership, passion, and determination in service to our great Nation.

HONORING CATHERINE Y. KIM AS
A 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Catherine Y. Kim of the Los Feliz area of Los Angeles, California.

Born and raised in Los Feliz, Catherine is a proud child of Korean immigrants. After attending Lycée International de Los Angeles in Los Feliz, she continued her higher education at New York University, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Media, Culture, and Communications and a minor in Art History.

After working in New York City in public relations and the fashion industry, Catherine moved back to Los Angeles. While volunteering as a member of the League of Women Voters, Catherine recognized the importance of being involved at the local level to make a difference in the community. With a wealth of experience as the past chair of the East Hollywood Los Feliz Homeless Coalition, and former Vice President of the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, where she is currently a member, Ms. Kim cofounded SELAH Neighborhood Homeless Coalition (SELAH). SELAH is a community-based volunteer organization devoted to supporting her unhoused neighbors in Silver Lake, Echo Park, Los Feliz, Atwater Village and East Hollywood.

Ms. Kim's passion for helping the community became even more evident when the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic began. She was instrumental in guiding SELAH to serve those in-need through countless ways, from providing showers, case management/housing navigation, meals, hygiene supplies,

and clothing to initiating an emergency food program. In addition, Catherine was instrumental in distributing COVID-19 educational material and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the unhoused communities impacted by the closing of regular homeless food and assistance programs. In the Fall of 2020, Catherine joined the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Housing for Health division COVID Response Team as a Procurement Specialist, working during a time of a global supply chain crisis to ensure that county quarantine and isolation sites came online as fast as possible, and that COVID-19 testing teams for individuals facing homelessness were protected with PPE when out in the field. Presently, Ms. Kim is committed to supporting the efforts of Los Angeles County in COVID-19 vaccine education, administration, and outreach in the unhoused community, and also coordinating SELAH's roving and on-site vaccine clinics for areas that are overlooked or hard to reach.

Catherine enjoys empowering people to serve their community and encouraging them to partake in civic engagement. She likes painting, visiting museums, scuba diving, attending concerts, hiking in Griffith Park, and walking in her neighborhood.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Catherine Y. Kim.

HONORING DR. JOSÉ CELSO
BARBOSA

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Dr. José Celso Barbosa, born 157 years ago today.

Dr. Barbosa, the father of the Puerto Rican Statehood movement, was a distinguished physician, politician and publisher, and founder of the Republican Party in Puerto Rico.

Born in the city of Bayamon, in a time when a black man had limited opportunities, he broke barriers and studied medicine at the University of Michigan, where he grew to understand the values of the United States, and when he came back to Puerto Rico in 1880 he began to challenge the Spanish colonial system, becoming active in seeking greater home rule.

When Puerto Rico became part of the United States after the Spanish American War, Barbosa saw in the American Constitution and in Statehood the way to ensure democracy, liberty and equality for the people of his Island. Establishing the Republican Party in Puerto Rico on the 4th of July 1899, he became the strongest and most fervent voice in favor of American law and institutions. From his positions both in the Executive Cabinet and later in the Senate of Puerto Rico, he steadfastly insisted that this should mean full equality as a State of the Union.

For a century since his passing, generations of leaders in Puerto Rico across all social divides have followed the inspiration of Barbosa, striving to make his aspiration a reality: for the people of Puerto Rico to fully participate as American Citizens, contributing to the nation

and sharing in its future, by having our Island become a State of the Union.

That was his ideal and it is mine, and that of many in Puerto Rico. Just last November, a majority of our voters said Yes to Barbosa's vision, electing statehood. I am here to make sure that their voice is heard, as the best way to honor his memory and reaffirm his goal.

Barbosa's memory lives on, in everyone who seeks justice and equality for Puerto Rico.

HONORING BRIAN WAGNER FOR
RETIRING AS PRESIDENT OF
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
POSTAL SUPERVISORS

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor and congratulate Brian Wagner on his retirement as National Association of Postal Supervisors President.

Brian has dedicated forty-three years to the betterment of the Postal Service. His incredible career began in Peoria, IL, in 1978. Twelve years later, Brian worked his way up to the role of Delivery & Retail Analyst and joined the National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS). After entering the USPS Management Trainee Program, Brian attained the role of Customer Relations Coordinator for the Peoria area. He retired from this role in 2015, marking the end of his exceptional tenure serving the Peoria area in the Postal Service.

Like his work for the Postal Service, Brian's involvement with NAPS highlights a robust effort to represent and assist his fellow postal workers. During his time at NAPS, Brian was President of Heart of IL Branch 255, Illinois State Area Vice President, and NAPS Secretary/Treasurer. He also served on the Executive Board as Central Region Vice President.

Brian was elected NAPS National President in 2016 and reelected in 2018, a testament to his lifelong commitment to and advocacy for the Postal Service and its employees.

I want to express the utmost gratitude to Brian. I am certain that my fellow Peorians feel the same pride and respect towards him that I do. His career serves as an example of how to honorably serve the public. He has undoubtedly improved the lives of Peorians and Americans more broadly. Most importantly, Brian accomplished all this while being a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Congratulations Brian, and I wish you happiness and relaxation in retirement.

FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO
VOTE

SPEECH OF

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2021

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, let me start off by making one thing clear. The 15th amendment of the United States Constitution says, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

And so, I challenge the Supreme Court's decision that gutted Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. The Supreme Court's interpretation does the exact opposite of the 15th Amendment to the Constitution. But since the 2020 election that broke voter participation records and gave us a democratic majority, Georgia has been ground-zero for voter suppression efforts in this country.

Because Black people came out to vote in record numbers, Republican lawmakers in Georgia moved with lightning speed and surgical precision to restrict voting rights. State

lawmakers reached deep into their bag of tricks, including eliminating ballot drop box locations, limiting voting days and hours, instituting strict ID requirements, and even going as far as trying to make it a crime to distribute food and water to people waiting in long voting lines. It's clear that these laws aren't about protecting voters. It's about punishing voters for exercising their right to vote.

But it's not only Georgia. Since Election Day, we have been experiencing an all-out anti-democratic assault on our voting rights. Eighteen states, all led by Republican governors, have enacted voter suppression laws because they know that when we vote, they lose. They're playing scared, but we have got to play smart.

We have seen this type of backlash before. And just as we did in the 1960's, we must pass new civil rights legislation, including the John Lewis Voting Rights Act and the For the People Act, to protect and expand voting rights.

The legislation named after my dear friend and civil rights icon, the late Congressman John Lewis, would restore the Voting Rights Act to its full strength, and stem the tide against this flood of voter suppression laws.

The For The People Act establishes automatic voter registration. It prohibits the most common forms of voter roll purges. It increases access to the polls. It restores voting rights for the formerly incarcerated, among many other democracy saving provisions.

After an election filled with big lies and scare tactics, that culminated in the violent January 6 insurrection, the American people deserve hard assurances that their vote and their voice will continue to count. So, if the Senate needs to eliminate the filibuster to protect voting rights, then that is exactly what it must do.

This fight that we are in to protect our sacred right to vote is critical and urgent. Our democracy is on the line, and we are not without options to try and save it.